



Reservists overcome convoy attack

*in a combat scenario during a week long
Operational Readiness Exercise. Story on page 6.*



Photo By Maj. James R. Wilson

Colonel Flanigan

Commander issues holiday greeting

By Col. William Flanigan
939th Air Refueling Wing commander

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the 939th Air Refueling Wing a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Please accept my sincerest thanks and gratitude for all the great accomplishments and personal sacrifices you have

contributed to the successful execution of the wing's mission during the past year.

This past year has been very challenging for the wing. From an Air Expeditionary Force deployment to Katrina/Rita relief support, from building a lodge for a non-profit organization to the mobilization of 24 aerial porters, from preparing/enduring for a myriad of inspections (Unit Compliance Inspection, Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit, Logistics Compliance Inspection) to honing your warrior skills in wing-wide exercises, plus many other activities throughout the wing, you have performed magnificently.

All this was accomplished under the cloud of uncertainties of the BRAC realignment announcement of the 939th. Kudos' to every wing member, you have remained focused on the tasks at hand with the skill and professionalism that has been the bedrock of the 939th's long and distinguished history.

As we enter this busy season, I hope each of you will take time to spend with your family and friends. I ask you to reflect on the value your gift of service brings to a neighbor, a relative, or a person whose name you don't even know.

Please also remember and give thanks for the sacrifices of the men and women in our armed forces who are deployed to distant points around the world. They are on duty around the clock to ensure America continues to enjoy the blessings of liberty, security and prosperity. Remember their families during the holiday season.

I look forward to the challenges of the coming year and the distinguished privilege of working with all of you as the new year unfolds. Together we will continue the proud tradition of the 939th of integrity, service before self, and excellence in all that we do.

Remember to take care of your wingman this and every month. Have a safe and happy holiday season.
Merry Christmas!

Holiday season message highlights importance of life

By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON - As the holiday season and another year approach, let us take time to consider what is really important - family and friends.

During this time of year, we tend to hold our families a little closer, realizing that what we take for granted can change in an instant. We need to remember our friends who have endured great sacrifices or those who have suffered great loss on the Gulf Coast.

It is your realization of what is important, coupled with your dedication to duty, that enables you to serve our great

nation so well. You know the price of freedom and you are willing to pay it. I salute those who have deployed in harm's way and supported the Global War on Terrorism, as well as those who have worked so hard to assist with hurricane rescue and relief.

As in the past, we face new challenges in 2006 - aircraft conversions, participation in air and space expeditionary force deployments and mission changes to name a few. I am confident you will once again do our country proud.

Jan and I wish you and yours happy holidays and a safe, joyous New Year. We are proud of you and what you do for America. (AFRC News Service)



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Photo By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny
939th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office

Senior Airman Andrew Young, 939th security forces specialist, secures a Humvee that is part of the scenario for the 939th Air Refueling Wing's operational readiness exercise .

Air mobility key to Air Force's success

By Maj. James R. Wilson
939th Public Affairs Office

NASHVILLE, Tenn.— The Air Force's highest ranking officers shared their thoughts on the importance of air mobility during the 37th Annual Airlift/Tanker Association symposium here Oct. 28-29.

A/TA is an organization that brings active duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilians together to promote a better understanding of air mobility's contributions to national security.

Aside from getting to hear from senior leaders, participants had the opportunity to attend smaller seminar sessions. A total of 43 separate seminars were offered on topics ranging from tanker operations in combat, to the value of Professional Military Education.

Three members of the 939th Air Refueling Wing attended this year's symposium.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley began the convention by praising Airmen responsible for providing global mobility to the service in the ongoing fight on terrorism.

We have "the finest global mobility force that any military has ever seen," General Moseley said. "Adaptability and flexibility is what makes air mobility so great."

The general used the symposium to articulate the impact Air Mobility Command members are making in the war— words that were warmly received by the nearly 4,000 attendees.

He spoke of the number of combat missions that would be flown in Iraq and Afghanistan and the number of aircraft that would be refueled in each contingency operation.

"The entire world watches as you make air mobility look so easy," General Moseley said. "The truth is it is not easy."

While he expects the war on terror to last a generation, the general also believes "this is going to turn out okay because of Airmen like [you]."

In addition to recognizing the contributions of Air Mobility Command, the general outlined his top three priorities as the Air Force's ranking officer. The top three are: winning the war in Southwest Asia, taking care of Air Force members and modernizing the Air Force's aging aircraft fleet.

His remarks were echoed by the commander of Air Mobility Command Gen. Duncan McNabb.

"We are in this [Global War on Terrorism] for the long haul, and we've got to continue to do this better," General McNabb said. "But you look at our fleet and we must modernize."

To improve inter-theater airlift, he said he sees the need to continue to improve the force with more C-17s, more C-130s, and the C-5 avionics modernization program.

In closing the conference, General McNabb stressed what AMC learned during the Global War on Terrorism.

"We've never had such a combat-ready force," he said. "We know what works and we know what doesn't work, so let's fix it. Let's get on with it. Let's move into the future. It's going to be exciting times."

Lt. Gens. John Bradley and Daniel James III, commanders of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard respectively, also addressed those in attendance. They spoke about the need to keep deployment durations to the current 120 day schedule and the impact Base Realignment and Closure will have on Citizen Airmen.

The 2006 A/TA convention is scheduled for Oct. 29 to Nov. 1 in Orlando, Fla.

Let it snow, let it snow, let it Snow

939th outlines policy for base closure and delays due to inclement weather

By Ruby Zarzyczny
939th Public Affairs Office

Inclement weather, what to do? Call (503) 335-4000 and select option 4 to hear a recording that will announce base opening delays and closures. Other methods of base closure notification in the event of inclement weather or other emergency conditions will be made through the telephone alert system and/or advisory announcements on local television and on KEX 1190 AM and KXL 750/95.5 FM radio stations. Do not call the Wing or Base Command Posts.

Certain selected mission essential and emergency essential personnel as identified by the appropriate Functional Area Supervisor, may be required to work during inclement weather or other emergency conditions.

Supervisors should notify any traditional Reservists who are performing mandays about the base closure or delayed opening.

During inclement weather or other emergency conditions, employees are expected to make a reasonable attempt to arrive at work on time unless specified otherwise. Employees should exercise individual judgment in view of their particular circumstances and conditions. If an employee decides to stay home, the supervisor should be notified as soon as possible.

If the base is **closed**, Civil Service employees will be excused without charge to leave for the period of the closure. If the base is open but individuals are concerned about traveling safely, they may remain at home, however, they must request leave.

First line supervisors may excuse short periods of tardiness (up to 2 hours) if an official decision is made to **delay opening** the base because of weather or emergency conditions or if hazardous weather conditions cause tardiness. Employees must report for work in order to be granted excused absence for the period covered by an authorized delayed base opening or tardiness due to hazardous weather. Employees who do not report for duty must request leave for the entire day. Contact your supervisors for more information about leave policies pertaining to your specific employment category. **(This information was extracted from the 939th Air Refueling Wing Inclement Weather Conditions Leave policy)**

DOD to begin BRAC closures, realignments

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

Editor's Note: The plan to realign the 939th Air Refueling Wing became official last month. The article below is the Defense Department's announcement on the reshaping of the military through Base Realignment and Closure.

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission's recommendations for reshaping the Defense Department's infrastructure and force structure took effect Nov. 9.

Congress allowed the commission recommendations to pass into law at the mandated Nov. 8 deadline.

The nine-member BRAC panel delivered its final report to President George Bush Sept. 8. He, in turn, sent it to Congress for legislative review Sept. 15. Congress had 45 legislative days -- until Nov. 9 -- to accept or reject the report in its entirety.

However, Congress was not authorized to make any changes to the final report.

By statute, the Defense Department now has until Sept. 15, 2007 -- two years from the date the president sent Congress the BRAC commission's final report -- to begin closing and realigning the installations as called for in the report. The process must be completed by Sept. 15, 2011.

The 2005 BRAC recommendations represent the most aggressive BRAC ever proposed, affecting more than 800 installations, officials said.

The four previous BRAC rounds -- in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995 -- resulted in 97 major closures, 55 major realignments and 235 minor actions, according to DOD figures. Overall, closing and realigning these

installations saved taxpayers around \$18 billion though fiscal 2001 and a further \$7 billion per year since, officials said.

BRAC 2005 is being called an important milestone in restructuring the department's domestic base structure to improve efficiency and operational capabilities. It also supports plans to move thousands of U.S. forces -- currently serving overseas -- to within the United States as part of DOD's new global positioning strategy, officials said.

After months of study, installation visits and public hearings around the country, the BRAC panel approved 86 percent of DOD's original recommendations -- 119 with no change and another 45 with amendments, the panel said.

The panel also rejected 13 recommendations, significantly modified another 13, and made five additional closure or realignment recommendations on its own initiative.

Of DOD's 33 major closure recommendations, the panel approved 21, recommended seven bases be realigned rather than closed, and rejected five recommendations outright. In addition, the commission recommended closing rather than realigning another installation, for a total of 22 major closures.

Many of the transformational recommendations in the report, particularly those to establish joint operations, will present significant challenges as they are implemented, officials acknowledged.

Detailed business plans will be developed for every BRAC recommendation, laying out what actions are required to implement them, when they will occur and

what resources are needed to put them into effect, officials said.

Affected services and agencies must submit these plans by Nov. 15 to the DOD Installation Capabilities Council, which will review them and forward them to the Infrastructure Steering Group for approval.

Meanwhile, the department is poised to begin working with civilian employees and communities affected by the BRAC decisions.

DOD has a long and successful history of helping its civilian workers impacted by base closings, officials noted. This includes programs that promote placement, training, retraining and transition to new positions.

Since 1989, DOD has reduced its civilian work force by 428,400 people, with less than 10 percent of those reductions through involuntary separations, officials said. The department's Priority Placement Program -- which officials call the centerpiece of DOD's Civilian Assistance and Reemployment programs -- gives defense employees placement priority at other DOD facilities.

The department's Office of Economic Adjustment will take the lead for the federal government in helping communities affected by base closures and realignments, working cooperatively with the President's Economic Adjustment Committee, officials said.

A community conference, to be held in Baltimore Nov. 28 through Dec. 1, will focus on many of the issues involved in BRAC 2005 and the programs available to address them.

21st Secretary of the Air Force sworn into Office

The Honorable Michael W. Wynne was sworn in Nov. 3 in front of 4,200 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets, during their noontime meal, as the 21st Secretary of the Air Force. In this role, he is responsible for the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including the organizing, training, equipping, and providing for the welfare of its nearly 370,000 men and women on active duty, 180,000 members of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve, 160,000 civilians, and their families. As head of the Department of the Air Force, Secretary Wynne is responsible for its functioning and efficiency, the formulation of its policies and programs, and the timely implementation of decisions and instructions of the President of the United States and the Secretary of Defense.

Web site offers one-stop financial education

The federal government has a new multiagency web site devoted to financial education. It covers savings, investing, credit and social security benefits and is recommended as a good way to explore financial options. Visitors can also order a free financial tool kit from the mymoney.gov site. The guide contains information on how to choose and use credit cards, get out of debt and numerous other handy financial tips on investing. Kits can also be ordered by calling (888) 696-6639.

AF portal is a must have

By logging on to the portal, users will have access to 14 of the most used personnel web services, such as the Virtual Military Personnel Flight and civilian employment pages that enhance mission capability for today's warfighter. The Air Force Portal is located at <http://www.my.af.mil>.



Photos By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Master Sgt. William Cote (center), 939th security forces specialist takes charge of the scene of an insurgents convoy attack during the recent 939th Air Refueling Wing operational readiness exercise. Reservists in this convoy practiced combat tactics to overcome this simulated attack.

939th accomplishes ORE at Base X

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Persson
939th Public Affairs Office

More than 700 members of the 939th Air Refueling Wing were involved in an Operational Readiness Exercise here Oct. 31 through Nov. 5.

During the exercise, Reservists from the wing deployed to Base X, a simulated base in the U.S. Central Air Force's area of responsibility.

Maj. David Jeske, 939th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, was a member of the exercise planning team, as well as the exercise evaluation team. "Most members of this wing had more opportunity to learn and experience things this week than ever before at home station," Major Jeske said.

The exercise included not only simulated chemical weapons attacks, but also simulated conventional attacks.

"This is the first time the 939th has ever, in one exercise, practiced all of the functional tasks the Air Mobility Command Inspector General would have evaluated during an Operational Readiness

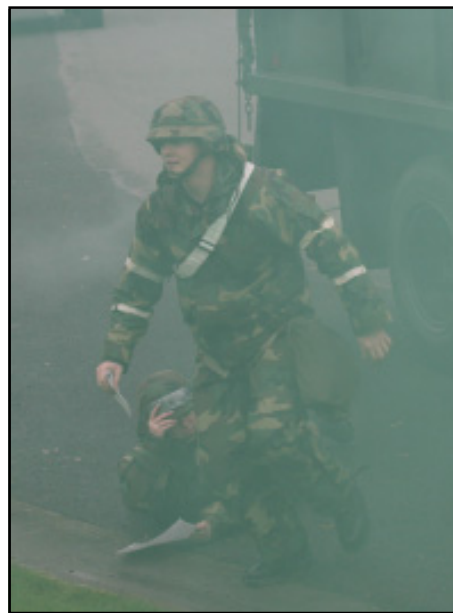
Inspection," Major Jeske said.

"But this time we decided to do things differently," Major Jeske said. "We are used to doing the nuclear, biological and chemical attacks, and for good reason. But we asked ourselves 'how many people in Iraq have died from NBC attacks?' The answer was 'none'," he said.

"For this exercise we threw in the attack on the defensive fighting position, the vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, sniper fire, protests and convoy attacks. In this exercise you saw all those," Major Jeske said. "That's real world, and that's what they are going to experience," he added.

Major Jeske said communication was an area that could use some improvement. "In a crisis combat situation, a commander's ability to communicate and command is critically important, and more so than any other time," he said. "That is something that is perhaps the hardest thing to manage in the military, whether you are a three-star general or a master sergeant," he added.

Two real-world flights were integrated into the exercise. Although they were previously planned, the launches were conducted as if they were taking off from a deployed location.



As the smoke clears, 939th Reservists see how to stabilize the situation during the operational readiness exercise.

The exercise included functional areas within the wing staff. The staff judge advocate's office handled a complaint stemming from a violation of the Law of Armed Conflict, as well as a situation involving a conscientious objector. The public affairs office published a daily newsletter and handled numerous media queries, and the wing historian recorded the wing's activities throughout the entire exercise.

The exercise also included the redeployment of Reservists from the area.

"CENTAF has faced numerous problems with redeployment of personnel, and AMC grades us on the ability to redeploy," Major Jeske said.

"The questions are 'Have you taken a guy from his home, adequately prepared him both emotionally and physically (for training) to go do his wartime mission, encounter the things he is going to encounter, and then have you adequately brought him home so you can re-insert him back into his previous life?'," he said. "We can't bring a troop back and tell him to call if he needs something," he added.

"Our efforts were successful if we have prepared our people for what they'll actually see," Major Jeske said. "From



Maintainers from the 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron continue to do aircraft maintenance in MOPP 4 chemical warfare gear after an attack scenario during the ORE.



Reservists participating in the ORE form a perimeter around their convoy to defend against the enemy's attack.

my standpoint this was the most realistic CENTAF [oriented] training that I have ever seen", he said. "It enabled us to focus on the things our people are actually encountering in the theater, where there are protests or situations right next to bases in Iraq or Afghanistan," he added.

"The exercise gave me the opportunity to use the skills I learned in Security Forces school," said Senior Airman Adam Knight, combat arms instructor with the 939th Mission Support Squadron's. This was Airman Knight's first operational readiness exercise.

Master Sgt. Thomas White, the NCOIC of safety for the 83rd Aerial Port Squadron, was assigned to the unit control center during the exercise. "I have been through at least six OREs, and this had the smoothest flow of all of them," Sergeant White said. "The setup was a bit chaotic, but the information flow down to the lower level was very good."

"Even though this wing is scheduled to be realigned, it is important to take advantage of opportunities to prepare our Reservists to deploy," Major Jeske said. "And now every person from this wing who goes



These Reservists know looking out for one another is not just an act of kindness, it's a matter of life or death. Here they ensure each other's chemical warfare gear is worn properly for their best chance for survival during a chemical attack.

to another wing is far better prepared than they would have otherwise been."



What kind of Airman is an Airman who does not leave this world a better place? Reservists from the 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron made the ORE a better place when they made a Welcome to Camp Hooaha sign (the name of the camp at Base X) for newly arriving Airman.



Reservists break rules, get discharged

A reservist, who was administratively demoted to technical sergeant after a positive urinalysis result, from March Air Reserve Base, Calif., met a discharge board on Sep. 28 for alleged drug abuse. The member, with more than 25 years of military service, was randomly picked for a urinalysis and when he arrived at the urine collection site, he stated that he was nauseous and wanted to see a doctor. He was referred to a physician's assistant who found that while the member had greatly elevated blood pressure and pulse, the member was in no immediate danger. The urine sample was collected, and the member was referred to a Veteran's Administration hospital, where after waiting for treatment for several hours, he left without seeing a doctor. The urine sample was found to be positive for methamphetamine. The member did not make a statement to investigators. The board substantiated the wrongful methamphetamine use, and recommend that the member be separated under an Other than honorable conditions discharge.

A captain from Dover Air Force Base, Del. met a discharge board on Sep. 29 for unsatisfactory participation and dereliction of duty. The member attempted to fly with another squadron while he was grounded by his own squadron due to his training deficiency. The board did not substantiate the alleged dereliction of duty but the board did substantiate the unsatisfactory participation.

A senior airman from Beale Air Force Base, Calif., met a discharge board on Oct 6, based on a pattern of minor disciplinary infractions. The member was alleged to have been chronically late to

work, non-compliant with dress and appearance standards. When he did show up for work, he had been delinquent in paying his Government Travel Card, and had failed to complete a swap-out of maps on the unit's airplanes. The board members substantiated all of the alleged misconduct except for the respondent's failure to complete the map updates. The Board recommended an honorable service characterization discharge.

A senior airman from Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, was separated from the Air Force Reserve Oct. 13 under a general discharge. The basis for the discharge was that he stole over \$500.00 from the Base Exchange and then lied to his commander stating that he "took those items into the Base Exchange in order to return them."

A senior airman from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., met a discharge board for failure to pay his Government Travel Card. Member had met a discharge board about 18 months ago with the same basis for discharge. At that discharge board, the board member's substantiated the GTC delinquency, but recommended that the member be retained. However, when the member went back to the unit, he continued to fail to pay his GTC balance. The unit undertook the required progression of disciplinary steps, letter of counseling, escalating to a letter of reprimand as time passed, and finally an administrative discharge was re-initiated. The board members on Oct 25 substantiated the GTC delinquency and recommended that the member be separated under a general discharge.

A senior airman from Beale Air Force Base, Calif., met a discharge board

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Air National Guard Career Fair

There will be a career fair Jan. 7-8 for Reservist interested in staying in the local area. The two-day fair will be held in building 300 from 9 a.m to 11 a.m. The career fair will then transition both days to the dining facility here between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then return to building 300 until 2:30 p.m. If you have questions, call Master Sgt. Richard Trammel at 5-4039.

on Oct. 27 for unsatisfactory participation and Government Travel Card delinquency. The board members substantiated the misconduct and recommended that he be separated under a general service characterization.

A captain from Minneapolis-St Paul Air Reserve Station, Minn., met a discharge board on Nov. 1 for wrongfully using, possessing, and selling steroids, and for being a self-admitted homosexual who had the intent to act on his homosexuality. The board recommended that he be discharged under other than honorable conditions.

AMC leaders discuss BRAC changes within the command

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Diamond

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AMCNS) — Air Mobility Command senior leaders offered a series of town hall meetings for headquarters personnel here Nov. 15 to explain Base Realignment and Closure changes that will affect the command.

The BRAC Commission's recommendations became law Nov. 9, after the president accepted the commission's input and submitted them to Congress Sept. 15. The Defense Department is now beginning the process of closing or realigning hundreds of DOD installations and activities.

Within AMC, the BRAC changes affected all but one base, with significant changes at Andrews AFB, Md.; Grand Forks AFB, ND.; McChord AFB, Wash.; McGuire AFB, N.J.; Pope AFB, S.C.; and Scott AFB.

Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, AMC commander, said now, more than ever, is the time for transformation.

"We are at a point where it's time to take those next steps," said the general. "BRAC is a big part of that. When you think about the future, we have to set up our installations so they are supportive of that vision."

In what AMC leaders called the most significant transformational change within the command, the U.S. Army's Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, or SDDC, will be collocated with U.S. Transportation Command and Headquarters AMC at Scott AFB.

"As AMC evolves, not only in its 'organize, train and equip' role, but also as a component to U.S. TRANSCOM, it's

very easy to see how dynamic that relationship is and what a difference it is making," General McNabb said.

With the collocation of Hq. AMC, SDDC and U.S. TRANSCOM, the general said that relationship becomes even more important. He said the move will accelerate the capabilities and enhance the effectiveness of each command.

The realignment involves relocating three major SDDC components, including a majority of the command at Fort Eustis, Va.; the command element, located in the Hoffman 2 Building (a leased facility) in Alexandria, Va.; and the Transportation Engineering Agency in Newport News, Va.

In all, AMC officials said about 800, primarily civil service, SDDC positions will relocate to Scott AFB.

General Duncan J. McNabb

AMC officials also said the SDDC realignment alone will save the DOD about \$1.2 billion over the next 20 years.

"Whenever there is change like this, it can be a little uncomfortable. But it's important, and it's something we must do," General McNabb said.

The general added that although the DOD has a timeline to implement the BRAC changes, the command must also ensure it continues to take care of its people and the mission."

By statute, the Defense Department has until Sept. 15, 2007 to begin closing and realigning the installations specified in the BRAC report. The process must be completed by Sept. 15, 2011.

"It's going to take a lot of give and take, and it's going to take a lot of good people hashing out ideas," he said. "But one of the most exciting things we get to do in the mobility world is to create the future."

939th represents at Thanksgiving Day Parade

By Master Sgt. Michael Rak

939th Maintenance Squadron

The day after Thanksgiving is known as the busiest shopping day of the Christmas season. For some it's a day to relax and dine on turkey leftovers. But for organizers of the Meier and Frank Downtown parade, it is "showtime."

The Mustang Unlimited Car Club (Vancouver, Wash.) asked members of the 939th Air Refueling Wing to ride in the car club's Mustangs for the second consecutive year. The parade was filled with plenty of hoots, hollers and whoops of "Air Force Reserve" as the 939th's car passed. The car club's parade coordinator, Mr. Earl Edwards, is a retired flight engineer from the 304th Rescue Squadron here.

The store's annual holiday extravaganzas in downtown Portland, Ore. began in the 1930s as the Meier & Frank Fairy Tale Parade, running until 1969. The parades thereafter were held somewhat sporadically until the Meier & Frank Holiday Parades began their unbroken run in 1988. The parade has been traditionally held the day after Thanksgiving and has been a crowd favorite come rain or shine, and rain it did. This year's event offered parade goers with plenty of liquid sunshine and a time to cheer for the Air Force Reserve.



Courtesy Photo

Master Sgt. Michael Rak (left) and Airman 1st Class David Brydon represented the 939th Air Refueling Wing in this year's Thanksgiving Day parade. They posed here with Mr. Earl Edwards (far right), car club parade coordinator and one of his Mustangs. Sergeant Rak and Airman Brydon presented Mr. Edwards and the club with a matted picture of a Portland based KC-135R and a wing coin for its Esprit de Corps and outstanding support of the 939th wing.

Civilian

Welcome

Ms. Melinda Harwood,
939th Air Refueling Wing

Mr. David West,
64th Air Refueling Squadron

Mr. Samuel Hegje,
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Mr. Jack Olms,
939th Medical Squadron

Mr. George Zinck,
939th Air Refueling Wing

Ms. Sharon Bossen, *939th Air Refueling Wing*, Civilian Transfer from the Internal Revenue Service

Promotions

Mr. Charles Knapp,
939th Mission Support Squadron, Promotion to GS-12

Mrs. Sharon Johnson,
939th Communications Flight, Promotion GS-07

Mr. Eric Berggren,
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, to WS-09

Mr. Christopher Bonanno,
304th Rescue Squadron, Promotion from Westover

Maigen Schuler,
939th Mission Support Squadron, STEP Promotion to GS-03

Ms. Tiffany Sevier,
939th Air Refueling Wing, STEP Promotion GS-05

Mr. Shane Toomay,
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Promotion to GS-12 from Maxwell

Military

Promotions

Staff Sergeant

David Riley,
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Zachary Thiessen,
939th Maintenance Squadron

Chivonne Murphy,
939th MXS

Peter Hablitzel,
939th MXS

Crystal Blevins,
939th MXS

Jane Dalgliesh,
939th MXS

Jason Bjork,
83rd Aerial Port Squadron

Charles Foster,
939th Medical Squadron

Joshua Johnston,
304th Rescue Squadron

Michael Morgan,
304th RQS

Jason Owens,
939th Communications Flight



Courtesy Photo

Robert Ellestad, *83rd Aerial Port Squadron* was promoted to master sergeant Nov. 1 at Al Udeid, Qatar where he is deployed for 120 days. He will return to the wing in January.

Master Sergeant

Darrell Cherry
304th Rescue Squadron
Robert Ellestad
83rd Aerial Port Squadron

Quarterly Award Winners

Outstanding Airman

Senior Airman Carl Valentine,
939th Medical Squadron

Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer

Tech. Sgt. Mark Christiansen,
939th Maintenance Operations Flights

Outstanding Senior Noncommissioned Officer

Master Sgt. Bruce Clemmer,
64th Air Refueling Squadron

Retirements

Master Sgt. Michael Green,
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech Sgt. Regina Hessler,
939th Logistic Readiness Squadron

Maj. Kerry O'Leary,
939th LRS

Master Sgt. Ernest Ozsvath, *939th Maintenance Operations Flight*

Tech. Sgt. Robert Thater,
939th LRS

Master Sgt. Michael White,
939th Communications Flight

2006 Entertainment Books

2006 Entertainment books are for sale now and can be purchased for \$30 from Chief Master Sgt. Michael Steinbach, *939th Command Chief*.

Profits from the sale of these entertainment discounts books will go to the *939th Holiday fund*.

Free Christmas trees to all military families

The Clackamas County Christmas Tree Marketing Association has donated Christmas trees to military families (any branch, any duty status).

These free trees will be available Dec. 5th through the 10th at Camp Withycombe (the field by the family center).

These trees can be picked up from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. as daylight allows. The trees will come in all types and sizes.

Families picking up the trees will need to bring twine to tie them, and be able to load the trees as no help will be available.

For more information on the trees, please contact Betsy at (503) 557-6752.

Christmas carolers

Carolers from the Air Force Band of the Golden West will be here Dec. 15 to sing Christmas carols in various workcenters. Please welcome them to our wing.

What do you hope this year's Holiday Season brings to you?



Capt. Dave Bradford,
64th ARS aircraft
commander

*"Continued health
and prosperity for the
coming year"*



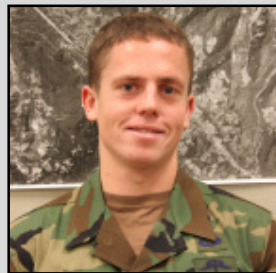
Senior Master Sgt. Mark
Jaques, 939th LRS
supply chief

*"That everyone will
pause to remember the
special moments in their
lives"*



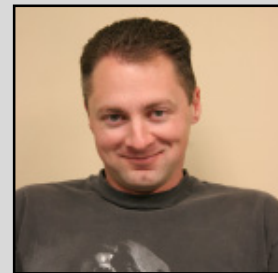
Mrs. Cindy Feagle, 604th
Recruiting Flight, office
manager

*"That everybody will find
the joy and peace they're
looking for during the
holidays...and a time
machine."*



Airman 1st Class Michael
McHugh, 304th RQS
pararescueman trainee

*"A new heater for my
van."*



Tech. Sgt. Daniel Starnier,
939th AMXS crew chief

*"I have everything I
want, so I'd like to have
the job I'm trying to get"*

"Hurt Alerts" fall with winter awareness

Master Sgt. Michael Clarke
939th Safety Office

Darkness, fog, cold, and frost are the morning factors that set in motion the chance of an early morning accident while coming to work or while at work.

Just recently, one of our fellow 939th members had a close call with another car while coming to work.

Watching your distances from other cars while driving is a good habit and can improve your chance of avoiding accidents. The other driver may make an unsafe move to get around a blockage because of the perceived need to get to his or hers

destination on time even though they may not have given themselves ample time to get there.

Manage your risk by thinking ahead.

Last week, I mentioned a Hurt Alert to keep up safety awareness because we have had five injuries since the start of the new fiscal year.

[So far] the 939th Air Refueling Wing has had one strained back from tripping, one bruised set of knees from tripping, one dislocated arm, one strained neck from twisting and one strained wrist from lifting.

Be safe. Be aware.

CHILI COOK OFF RESULTS

Thanks to everyone who made chili and supported this event, we made \$120 for the Combined Federal Campaign.

The chili categories and winners are:

MILDEST - Lt. Col. Roger Gallet

BEANLESS - Chief Master Sgt.

Michael Steinbach

BEEFIEST - Col. John Silvia

HOTTEST - Col. John Silvia

PEOPLE'S CHOICE - Master

Sgt. Dan Beshears

GRAND POOPA - Lt. Col. Roger

Gallet

Angel Tree

The wing has received more than 130 foster children's Holiday wishes. If you would like to give to a foster child this year, the wishes are located on the Christmas tree in building 300. Please return the gifts along with the wish tag to the public affairs office by Dec. 19. For more information call Ruby at 5-4621.

Too cool to be hot

Lt. Col. Roger Gallet,
939th Operations
Group commander,
proudly displays the
trophy from the wing's
chili cook off Nov. 8.
Colonel Gallet's entry
won first place in the
mildest and the Grand
Poopa categories. The
Grand Poopa award is
presented each year
for the best overall
chili in the competition.



Photo by Maj. James R. Wilson



Photos By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Reservists from the 939th Air Refueling Wing assemble with their guidons for a commander's call during the November unit training assembly.

Guidons steeped in history

By Capt. Charles Knapp
939th Mission Support Squadron commander

A guidon is an heraldic banner carried by cavalry regiments, the equivalent of the colours borne by regiments of line infantry. Until approximately a century ago, guidons and colours were taken into battle as the distinguishing symbols and rallying points for fighting units.

The word derives from the Italian guidone meaning 'guide' or 'marker', hence it is the focus for soldiers in battle. For this precious symbol of unity, there developed, for its own sake that was reinforced by the religious practice, the blessing of a banner before it was carried into battle.

Roman legions fought fiercely to protect their eagle

(guidon) standards and suffered disgrace for their loss. This illustrates just how highly prized such guidons became. For a very long time, soldiers have given high regard to these talismans of

corporate identity, and so it is today.

(Editor's Note: the 939th Mission Support Squadron guidon was left unprotected, and taken into protective custody by the

diligent efforts of the 83rd Aerial Port Squadron on Nov. 6. Capt Charles Knapp, 939th MSS commander, along with his security forces element, recovered it later that afternoon.)



Maj. Connie Jenkins, 83rd Aerial Port Squadron agrees to release the captured 939th Mission Support Squadron's guidon to, Capt. Charles Knapp.



Capt. Charles Knapp, with the help of the Mission Support Reservists, recovers the MSS guidon and vows never to lose it again.